

Message Text

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ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05

PC-01 EUR-12 IGA-02 /074 W

-----271133 066000 /22

R 271020Z FEB 77

FM AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6387

INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY VICTORIA

AMEMBASSY PORT LOUIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L NAIROBI 2536

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, KE

SUBJECT: SEYCHELLES: TOUR OF HORIZON AND BEYOND, WITH PRESIDENT
MANCHAM

REF: 76 VICTORIA 293

1. OVER INFORMAL TWO-HOUR LUNCH ALONE WITH PRESIDENT MANCHAM ON
FEB. 26 AT STATE HOUSE VICTORIA, NUMBER OF SUBJECTS COVERED:

2. SEYCHELLES: MANCHAM STILL HOPEFUL OF ESTABLISHMENT ONE POLITICAL
PARTY. HE PLANS TO MANEUVER THIS INTO BEING BY HAVING A SPUP MP
(WHOM HE IS HELPING ESTABLISH A PIG FARM BY ASKING HOTELS TO SEND
HIM THEIR GARBAGE) PROPOSE MOTION OFFICIALLY TO PARLIAMENT IN ABOUT
SIX MONTHS TIME. CURRYING MP'S FAVOR WILL, MANCHAM HOPES, UNDERMINE
ANY OPPOSITION BY PM RENE. FURTHERMORE, MANCHAM CONFIDED HE INTENDS
PROFFER MINISTERIAL POST TO MP AS CARROT. MANCHAM DOES WORRY ABOUT
RENE AND POSSIBLE EXTERNAL FINANCIAL SUPPORT HE MAY BE RECEIVING.
MANCHAM SUSPICIOUS OF RECENT RENE VISIT TO MAURITIUS: RENE TOLD HIM
HE HAD TO MAKE TRIP TO BUY GLASSWARE. MANCHAM BELIEVES REASON GIVEN
IS TRANSPARENT. MANCHAM EVEN MORE SUSPICIOUS OF TOO-FREQUENT
VISITS TO SEYCHELLES (AND MAUTITIUS) OF LIBYAN OFFICIAL WHO
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RAMGOOLAM SAYS HAD SUITCASE PACKED WITH ONE HUNDRED DOLLAR BILLS.
I TOLD MANCHAM I HAD READ IN NEWSPAPER OF UPCOMING SOCIALIST
CONFERENCE IN MADAGASCAR TO WHICH SPUP INVITED, AND ASKED HOW
HE FELT ABOUT RENE ATTENDING. HE KNEW NOTHING OF CONFERENCE
AND WAS VISIBLY CONCERNED.

3. SOVIETS, MANCHAM CONFIRMED, ARE DEFINITELY ESTABLISHING

EMBASSY IN SEYCHELLES. WHEN I ENQUIRED RE CHINESE, HE REPLIED,
"WHY NOT? ONE CAN BALANCE THE OTHER."

4. HOUSING, MANCHAM ASSERTED, IS MAJOR PROBLEM FOR SEYCHELLES;
ASKING HOW US MIGHT HELP, I INDICATED I WOULD BE PLEASED TO
REQUEST USAID REGIONAL HOUSING OFFICER NEIL GOODSON TO VISIT
SEYCHELLES FOR EXPLORATORY TALKS, AND OUTLINED MAJOR (GUARANTEE)
ASPECTS OF PROGRAM. "HOW SOON?", MANCHAM ASKED. I PROMISED
WITHIN TWO MONTHS. MANCHAM'S NOT ILLOGICAL REASONING IN HIS
INTEREST IN DEFLECTING ASSOCIATION BETWEEN US FINANCIAL "ASSIS-
TANCE" AS RESULT OF DET. 4 PRESENCE TO "NON MILITARY" HELP.

5. PEACE CORPS ACTIVITIES IN SEYCHELLES ALSO DISCUSSED. I
OBSERVED THAT HAVING MET YESTERDAY WITH PCVS, CONSIDERABLY
GREATER MILEAGE COULD BE OBTAINED FROM PC INPUT. I SEE THERE
BEING THREE AREAS OF PROBLEM: (1) PCVS THEMSELVES, (2) PC STAFF
LEADERSHIP, COORDINATION, AND (WITH APOLOGIES) G.O.S. MANCHAM
QUICKLY VOLUNTEERED TO TAKE ACTION; HOWEVER, I SAID FIRST I WISHED
TO PLACE PC STAFFER HERE (ALSO TO BE RESPONSIBLE FOR A PROGRAM),
BUT MIGHT ASK FOR HIS SUPPORT AT LATER DATE.

6. MAURITIUS WAS TOUCHED ON, AND I MENTIONED APRIL 24 MUNICIPAL
ELECTIONS DATE SET OF WHICH HE UNAWARE. EVIDENT MANCHAM REACHING
WITH CONSIDERED THOUGHT TO POLITICAL MANEUVERINGS BETWEEN MMM
AND RAMGOOLAM.

7. DIGRESSING, I ASKED HOW MANCHAM'S MEETING WENT WITH MENIGSTU
IN ADDIS. MANCHAM APPEARED MORE IMPRESSED WITH SYMBOLIC RED
SCARF MENGISTU WORE THAN WITH SUBSTANCE OF CONVERSATION. MAJOR
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ITEM RAISED BY MENGISTU WAS "DISAPPOINTMENT" BY ADDIS OVER
SUDANESE SUPPORT FOR ERITREA. MENIGSTU SOUGHT MANCHAM SUPPORT ON
THIS ISSUE BEFORE OAU.

8. EAST AFRICAN (KENYA, TANZANIA, UGANDA) CONTRETEMPS RAISED,
INCLUDING GROWING ISSUE OF AMIN'S ATTENDANCE AT JUNE COMMONWEALTH
LONDON MEETING. "WHY COULDN'T BRITISH SIMPLY INFORM AMIN THAT
WITH ALL OTHER OBLIGATIONS FOR PROVIDING PERSONAL SECURITY VIPS,
THEY UNABLE ASSURE HIM GUARANTEED SAFETY," MANCHAM SPECULATED.

9. MANCHAM INQUIRED RE KENYATTA'S HEALTH, ASKING WHETHER HE
STILL IN CHARGE. I ASSURED HIM HE WAS, REFERRING TO LAST WEEK'S
NAKURU CABINET MEETING CARRIED ON TV, AS WELL AS TO MY OWN FIRST-
HAND OBSERVATIONS.
MARSHALL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SPHERE OF INFLUENCE, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, FORM OF GOVERNMENT, FOREIGN ASSISTANCE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 27-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977NAIROB02536
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770068-0112
Format: TEL
From: NAIROBI
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t1977025/aaaaadzm.tel
Line Count: 112
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: b1e2f5c7-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 VICTORIA 293
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 07-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3340322
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SEYCHELLES: TOUR OF HORIZON AND BEYOND, WITH PRESIDENT MANCHAM
TAGS: PFOR, KE, US, UR, LY, PC, (RENE, FRANCE ALBERT), (MANCHAM, JAMES RICHARD)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/b1e2f5c7-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009